Bright from the Start Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE, 670 East Tower
Atlanta, GA 30334
Phone: (404) 657-5562 WWW.DECAL.GA.GOV

Date: 1/2/2025 **VisitType:** Monitoring Visit **Arrival:** 12:00 PM **Departure:** 1:45 PM

FR-000013045
Thomas, Stephanie I
6620 DORSEY DRIVE Columbus, GA 31907 Muscogee County
(706) 563-4665 mmamag68@bellsouth.net

Process & QI Unit Consultant
Jeanne Noble-Duncan
Phone: (404) 656-5957
Fax: (404) 478-8021
jeanne.noble-duncan@decal.ga.gov

Mailing Address
Same

Quality Rated: No

Compliance Zone Designation		
01/02/2025	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
06/28/2024	Monitoring Visit	Good Standing
10/20/2023	Licensing Study	Good Standing

Compliance Zone Designation - A summary measure of a program's 12 month monitoring history, as it pertains to child care health and safety rules. The three compliance zones are good standing, support, and deficient.

Good Standing - Program is demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.
Support - Program performance is demonstrating a need for improvement in meeting rules.
Deficient - Program is not demonstrating an acceptable level of performance in meeting the rules.

Ratio Capacity

Age Ranges	Children Present	Child For Pay	CAPS	Not for Pay	Provider Children
Infant (0-11 mos)	0	0	0	0	0
1 & 2 Years	0	0	0	0	0
3 & 4 Years	0	1	0	0	0
School Age(5+) Years	0	4	0	0	0
Total Under 13 Years	0	3	0	0	0
Total Under 18 Years	0				

Children Present: 0
Caregivers/Helpers Present: 1
Total Children: 5
Total Caregivers/Helpers: 1

Comments
The purpose of this visit was to conduct a Monitoring Visit and follow up on previous citations.

Plan of Improvement: Developed This Date

Any rule violation which subjects a child to injury or life-threatening situation or any rule violations previously cited but not corrected, may result in the imposition of an adverse enforcement action. Serious or continued noncompliance may also jeopardize participation in one or more DECAL program(s).

Please refer to the website, http://www.decal.ga.gov/CCS/RulesAndRegulations.aspx , for information regarding October 1, 2018 rule changes about Criminal Records Checks that may affect your facility. In summary,

- New records checks will be required to be completed if a staff member experiences a six month break in service from the child care industry
- New clearance is required at least once every five years
- Any staff member solely responsible for supervising children will be required to have completed a comprehensive background clearance
- All staff members are required to have completed at least a national fingerprint based clearance check
- Any staff member with only the national fingerprint based clearance, must be under constant and direct supervision of a staff member with a satisfactory comprehensive records check clearance
- Facilities are required to use DECAL KOALA for Criminal Records Checks, including to verify portability of an employee

O.C.G.A. Section 42.1.12(i)(2) requires Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning to notify licensed child care programs on accessing and retrieving from the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's (GBI) website a list of the names and addresses of all registered sexual offenders. Please see GBI's website located at http://gbi.georgia.gov to access the Georgia Sex Offender Registry.

Refutation Process:

You have the right to refute any of the citations noted in this report with which you disagree. To refute a citation(s), do the following:

1) Log into DECAL KOALA www.decalkoala.com with the userid for your program
2) On the home page scroll down to the Inspection Reports and select 'Refute Citation' for the visit report in dispute
3) Select the specific rule number(s) that you are refuting, add the reason for disagreement regarding the rule citation, and upload supporting documentation
4) Submit the refutation in DECAL KOALA to Child Care Services (CCS) within 10 business days of the completion date.

Your refutation will be forwarded to the appropriate CCS manager, who will follow up with you about your concerns. If you have any questions about this process, contact our office at 404-657-5562.

Bright from the Start recommends that all licensed child care providers carry liability insurance coverage sufficient to protect its clients. If you do not have this liability insurance, you are required to post a notice with ½ inch letters in a conspicuous location in the program, notify the parent or guardian of each child in care in writing, obtain their signature to acknowledge receipt and maintain this written acknowledgment on file at the program at all times while the child attends the program and for 12 months after the child's last date of attendance. (O.C.G.A. Section 20-1A-4)

Important Quality Rated/CAPS Update:

Child care providers must be Quality Rated to receive Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS). Newly licensed, or new to CAPS providers may be eligible for the CAPS/ QR Provisional Status, allowing for scholarships while working toward an initial star rating. Provisional Status eligibility will be determined at the time of CAPS enrollment as part of the CAPS application process.

Contact the Quality Rated help desk a1 855-800-7747 or qualityrated@decal.ga.gov **for more information. Free techincal assistance is available!**

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(Findings Report)

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The following information is associated with a Monitoring Visit:

Activities and Equipment

290-2-3-.12 Equipment and Supplies(CR) **Met**

Comment
A variety of equipment and toys were observed.

290-2-3-.19 Infant-Sleeping Safety Requirements(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Care is not provided for any infant required to be in a crib

290-2-3-.07 Swimming Pools & Water-related Activities(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Home does not provide swimming activities.

Children's Records

290-2-3-.08 Children's Records **Met**

Correction Deadline: 7/28/2024

Corrected on 1/2/2025
.08(1) - Previous citation corrected in that all childrens immunization records were current on this date.

Facility

290-2-3-.11 Physical Plant - Safe Environment(CR) **Technical Assistance**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.11(2)(f) - Please ensure all plastic bags and cleaning materials are store inaccessible to children or in a locked cabinet. No children present on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/2/2025

290-2-3-.13 Physical Plant-Structural/Mechanical(CR) **Met**

Comment
The Home appears clean and free from hazards. No children present on this date.

290-2-3-.13 Playgrounds(CR) **Defer**

Technical Assistance
290-2-3-.13(2)(a) - The consultant discussed with the provider to pressure wash and repaint and the storage unit where rust is developing on this date.

Correction Deadline: 1/12/2025

Defer
290-2-3-.13(2)(d)-290-2-3-requires that outside play areas be protected from traffic or other hazards by fencing or other barriers at least four feet in height and approved by the Department. Fencing material shall not present a hazard to children. It was determined based on observation that the fence in the back yard measured two feet and seven inches at the lowest point where a tree fell on the fence. Further, the fence measured three feet six inches on the left side and three feet five inches on the right side.

POI (Plan of Improvement)
The Home will enclose the outside play area(s) with a four-feet high fence or other Department-approved barrier and inspect regularly to ensure fencing material is safe and any hazards identified are repaired or replaced. The Home will install or repair a fence around swimming pools that makes them inaccessible to children.

Correction Deadline: 2/3/2025

Recited on 1/1/0001

Health and Hygiene

290-2-3-.11 Children's Health and Hygiene(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children enrolled on this date. Proper hand washing of children and staff was discussed with the provider on this date.

290-2-3-.11 Diapering Areas & Practices(CR) **N/A**

Comment
There are no diapered children currently enrolled in the program.

290-2-3-.11 Medications(CR) **N/A**

Comment
Per the provider no medication is currently dispensed

Licensure

290-2-3-.04 Application Requirements(CR) **Met**

Comment
Application requirements reviewed with the Provider on this date.

Safety and Discipline

290-2-3-.11 Discipline(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.11 Transportation(CR) **N/A**

Comment
The provider does not provide routine transportation.

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

Staff Records

290-2-3-.21 Criminal Records and Comprehensive Background Checks(CR) **Met**

Comment
Criminal records checks were observed to be complete.

290-2-3-.07 Staff Qualifications(CR) **Met**

Comment
Staff observed to be compliant with applicable laws and regulations.

Staff:Child Ratios and Supervision

290-2-3-.07 Staff:Child Ratios(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)

290-2-3-.07 Supervision(CR) **Not Evaluated**

Comment
There were no children present during the time of the inspection. (This rule was not evaluated on this date)